Federal minister pledges full support for Sindhology institute

By Our Correspondent

DADU: Federal Minister for Culture and National Heritage Aurangzeb Khan Khichi and Federal Secretary Asadur Rehman Gilani visited the Institute of Sindhology at the University of Sindh, Jamshoro, on Tuesday.

They went round various sections of the institute, including the museum and the research library.

They were impressed by the arrangements for the preservation of artifacts, cultural and historical heritage and the rich academic and literary collections.

After meeting Vice Chancellor Professor Dr Fateh Mohammad Marri and Director of the institute Dr Fayaz Latif, the federal minister and secretary shared their view with media peronnel.

Mr Khichi said: "The Institute of Sindhology is an important academic, literary, historical and cultural institution not only of Sindh, but the country". He said he felt great pleasure visiting the different parts of the institute.

He noted that rare historical, cultural and literary heritage has been preserved in the museum in an exemplary manner. The museum, he added, showcased historical, civilisational and folk heritage with remarkable care and aesthetic sense.

The minister noted that the research library has a 600-year-old manuscript of the Holy Quran, as well as many other rare historical books and documents which deeply impressed him.

He stated that the purpose of his visit was to establish linkages among all cultural institutions across the country, connect them with one another and extend all possible support for their development.

"Institutions like the Institute of Sindhology are invaluable national assets, and their promotion and development is a collective responsibility," he said, and held out the assurance that his ministry would make every possible effort to bring improvement at the institute. He said that efforts would be made to arrange an exhibition of the institute's historical and cultural artifacts in Islamabad.

Two killers get death sentence

By Our Correspondent

NAWABSHAH: A local court on Tuesday sentenced two men to death in as many murder cases in Sanghar.

The first additional sessions judge (one) Sanghar awarded death penalty to a convict, Ghulam Mustafa Shaikh, after he was proven guilty in the murder of one Aijaz Ahmed Shaikh.

The court also awarded him 10-year imprisonment for using an illegal weapon.

The case No 17 and 18 of 2024 were registered at Sinjhoro police station under Section 302 PPC and Section 24 of Sindh Arms Act.

In another case, death penalty was awarded to one Rochu Bheel for murdering his wife Senki Bheel.

The case No 26/2025 was registered at Mangli police station under Sections 302 and 311 of Pakistan Penal Code.

Rain likely in many Sindh cities, towns

KARACHI: A westerly wave is likely to grip the province from Thursday (tomorrow), bringing about rain in many cities and towns, the Met department said. According to the department's daily advisory, the rain/thunderstorm of light to moderate intensity was likely in Karachi division, Jamshoro, Dadu, Thatta, Sujawal, Hyderabad, Tando Muhammad Khan, Tando Allahyar, Sanghar, Mirpurkhas, Umerkot, Naushahro Feroze, Shaheed Benazirabad, Khairpur, Sukkur, Ghotki, Jacobabad, Larkana, Kambar Shahdadkot and Shikarpur districts.

Karachi's temperature is expected to drop from Wednesday (today) under the influence of the westerly wave.

The minimum temperature recorded in the metropolis on Tuesday was 13.5 degrees Celsius. The temperature is likely to range between 12 and 14 degrees Celsius on Wednesday.—Staff Reporter

Brave women share their success stories at Lit Fest

Sheema Kermani believes art can take a buff to top level; Naz Dharejo encourages women to use firearms for self defence like she did

By Our Staff Correspondent

CLASSICAL dancer Sheema Kermani shares her views at the HLF session.—Umair Ali

HYDERABAD: Three prominent women coming with different social and cultural backgrounds shared their success stories at a session on 'Strong women: power, struggle & artistic expression' at the 11th Hyderabad Literature Festival, which drew to an end on Monday night with a musical programme.

They narrated their struggle against social taboos to encourage women to stop considering themselves to be weaker segment of society. Women should never give up struggle for their rights come hell or high water, they believed.

Marvi Awan, a feminist, moderated the session that lasted over half an hour. She invited eminent classical dancer and social activist Sheema Kermani to start the conversation.

"Art and skill is there in every woman," Kermani said, explaining that women can perform anything with beauty. "Women raise their children efficiently; every woman wants her child to become a good human. I believe dance and all other arts aim to make a good human being," she said.

She added art ensures that one should attain the level which is over and above the average life.

She recalled how she grew up in a family where art was applauded. "My family comprised educated people who used to appreciate arts and I had exposure to them as there was no embargo on such activities. Dance, music and theatre once used to be part of education and upbringing which is not the case today, which is regrettable", she said.

She conceded that she did confront problems. "But when you decide that this is the aim of your life, then these problems stand solvable. So, I urge young girls that if you have committed yourself to something you think is right and true, then do it with passion. None can stop you then," the artist said assertively. That was how, she said, she chose this art and then all other problems became meaningless.

Marvi observed that women do come across typical conditions when they find themselves losing, but if they rise, then they gather courage too.

Mukhtiar Naz Dharejo — also known as Waderi Nazo Dharejo — from Benazirabad district,

is known for her gunfight against notorious dacoits over a dispute involving her inherited agricultural lands in the early 90s.

Sharing her background, she said girls in her family usually study not beyond the Vth grade. She said her father had contracted three marriages. She explained how her brother faced a murder charge and her maternal uncle died during the land dispute. That was a period when dacoits were quite active in Sindh.

"My father was imprisoned which left only womenfolk behind in the family to face the situation arising out of the feud over inheritance of 300-acre of farmland in a village of Qazi Ahmed city of Nawabshah district [now Benazirabad]," she said.

She said that her family's opponents wanted to deprive her and her sisters of the land but they failed as she had obtained a stay order. Her father died after being released from prison. "I was in my early 20s and I wanted to appear in CSS exams as become a deputy commissioner was my dream," she said.

She said her father never discouraged her. "He trained us in using weapons. Guns then became toys for me," remarked Waderi Nazo. She said that her opponents, who happened to be her relatives, sold the adjacent land to a notorious dacoit, Imam Bux alias Emmo Khoso, in 2006 to psychologically pressure her family to surrender its inherited land. "But I made it a do or die game and then came that difficult night when we were attacked by around 200-250 criminals," she said.

"We returned the fire and then we ran out of ammunition. At dawn, my husband said we have no ammunition left. But I told him I will not face a defeat, so won't leave. He asked what if the attackers managed to barge into our house. I said a Kalashnikov is lying here and you may kill us. Then it will be up to you to fight or leave because it's my problem, not yours. We then got an armoury shop opened to get supplies," she revealed.

She said she retrieved 70 acres of the land occupied by her opponents overnight, and stayed on within the area for the next eight months fearlessly. "I still live in that area where I've built a house," she said. She went on to say that she married her cousin with a commitment that she would be allowed to operate the autaq (drawing room), perform her chores herself and decide daily issues of 'Raj' [rule over haris].

"If parents give confidence to their daughters, then they certainly perform successfully and no less like a male child. The respect I enjoy now is immeasurable," she said.

Nida Paras Dayo, an author who has done her MPhil in gender studies, also shared her struggle and narrated how she shattered cultural stereotypes in society. "Resultantly, I got papers of divorce which was certainly a traumatic phase of my life. Instead of considering it to be my defeat, I turned it into an opportunity to become the voice of women in my struggle against social injustices," she said.

FIA, Nadra ordered to help woman reunite with family

By Our Staff Correspondent

HYDERABAD: A single judge bench of the Sindh High Court Hyderabad circuit directed authorities of FIA and Nadra to coordinate mutually in order to ensure reunion of an unidentified woman, who has recovered from mental health issues after treatment at the Sir Cowasjee institute of psychiatry, with her family.

Justice Arbab Ali Hakro passed a detailed order on Monday after going through material facts of the case. The medical superintendent (MS) of Sir CJ Institute of Psychiatry & Behaviourial Sciences submitted progress reports dated Jan 3 & 7,2026 which were taken on record.

A statement of the SHO of the Shaheed Benazirabad police station dated Jan 19 was also submitted before the court.

The court noted that an unidentified woman patient, earlier brought under orders of the civil judge & judicial magistrate-II, Daulatpur, was admitted for psychiatric evaluation and treatment. The MS categorically reported that she had fully recovered and was mentally stable and capable of disclosing her identity, including names and addresses of her parents/relatives.

But her re-integration with the family was hindered due to inability of the local authorities to verify her particulars. The court noted that the Jan 3 report revealed that Nadra Hyderabad expressed its inability to initiate the identification process and stated that such verification could only be undertaken by the FIA Karachi or Nadra headquarters Islamabad as a result of which no meaningful progress was achieved in tracing her family.

"The court cannot overlook the fact that a recovered woman, who is neither an under trial prisoner nor an accused, continues to remain in custodial care merely due to administrative action. Such prolonged retention after recovery offends the dignity of the lady. The state bears a positive obligation to ensure that vulnerable individuals are not abandoned in institutional limbo," wrote Justice Hakro.

The MS also highlighted systemic concerns that several recovered women patients referred through various Darul Aman centres remained admitted for months and years due to non-receipt of orders from the referring courts.

The judge said: "This court had already issued directives on Dec 29, 2025, requiring district judges to supervise such matters. The present case demonstrates that further strengthening of the mechanism is necessary". He issued a number of directives.

"In view of the foregoing circumstances and in order to ensure that the recovered lady is reunited with her lawful family without further delay, it is directed that DG FIA Islamabad shall forthwith initiate the process of biometric verification, family tracing and identity confirmation of recovered woman," said the order.

Jacobabad rape case against policemen transferred to Larkana FIA

By Our Correspondent

SUKKUR: The victim of gang rape, allegedly committed in a Jacobabad police station a few days ago, recorded her statement before District and Sessions Judge Sharafuddin Shah on Tuesday.

She complained to the judge that the names of the SHO and head munshi of RD-44 police station were removed from the FIR lodged against the seven policemen who subjected her to rape for many days while she, along with her sister and grandmother, had been kept in detention.

She insisted that their names be restored as the 'prime suspects'.

The investigating officer (IO), Thul town DSP Ghulam Mustafa Abro, was also present during the court proceedings.

After recording statements of all three women, the judge transferred the case to the First Additional Sessions Judge Arjun Lal, who assigned a free and fair investigation into the matter to the deputy director of Larkana FIA's crime circle.

The FIR (No. 01/2026) was lodged at the RD-44 police station. The women stated that the SHO and his team were conducting a probe into a murder case against one of their male family members. They alleged that the team took them to the RD-44 police station and detained there for many days. The victim said seven policemen subjected her to rape every day.

Jacobabad SSP Kaleem Malik has already suspended the seven policemen, who were later arrested.

Opposition to hold protest at Gul Plaza

Continued from Page 13

municipal levels, and insufficient relief for victims.

They called for urgent support for affected shopkeepers and families. The declaration also underscored economic injustice, noting that Karachi generates nearly 65 per cent of Pakistan's revenue and 90 per cent of Sindh's revenue, yet residents of the city remain unprotected during time of crises.

PTI's Haleem Adil Sheikh sought compensation for affected shopkeepers, reconstruction of Gul Plaza, an independent inquiry within one week, legal action against negligent officials of Sindh Building Control Authority, Karachi Metropolitan Corporation, the mayor's office, and municipal authorities, establishment of at least 25 new fire stations, comprehensive fire safety audit, restructuring of the fire brigade, insurance for field staff, and overall improvement of Karachi's infrastructure.

He said that four days after the fire, victims' families had remained distressed, debris had not been cleared, and over 100 lives had been lost. He held the Sindh government and Karachi mayor responsible.

Firdous Shamim Naqvi added that public protest was necessary to stop injustice.

GDA's Dr Safdar Abbasi criticised the Sindh government's "incompetence and corruption", while Sardar Abdul Rahim warned that public patience was running out. He expressed solidarity with victims and condemned "systemic" negligence reaffirming support for the traders who have suffered losses.

What Gul Plaza really meant to Karachiites

Continued from Page 13

convenience, and variety converged.

In a city where the gap between the haves and the have-nots is ever-widening, Gul Plaza stood out as a rare space of inclusivity. Because its offerings were affordable while maintaining high-end quality, naturally, people from all socio-economic backgrounds found themselves there — one of the few places in Karachi where class lines quietly dissolved.

Aside from the availability and affordability of the goods, it was the relationships that anchored people to the space. Behind every shop was a person; a fact that hit shoppers hardest as images of the blaze circulated.

A detailed version of the article can be accessed on Dawn.com

BEFORE:- MR. ABDUL RAZZAQ (JUDGE)
IN THE BANKING COURT NO. II, AT KARACHI
Block No 50. Pakistan Secretariat, Near Passport Office, Saddar Karachi
SUIT NO. 17 OF 2026

BANKISLAMI PAKISTAN LIMITED, HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE AT 11Th FLOOR, EXECUTIVE TOWER DOLMEN CITY, MARINE DRIVE BLOCK 4, CLIFTION KARACHI AND BUSINESS & FINANCE CENTER 1st & 2nd MEZZANINE FLOOR. I.I. CHUNDRIGAR ROAD, KARACHI .....**Plaintiff**

Versus

MUNIR HUSSAIN S/O MUHAMMAD YOUSUF CNIC NO. 45205-8121396-9 HOUSE NO. C-47, MOHALLAH RUFI SWEET HOMES, SCHEME 33, MALIR CANT. KARACHI.....**Defendants**

To, **The Above named Defendants.**

Whereas the Plaintiff abovenamed has instituted a Suit against you under the Financial Institutions (Recovery of Finances) Ordinance XLVI of 2001. You are hereby summoned to obtain leave from the Court within Thirty Days from the service hereof to appear and defend the suit, and within such time to cause an appearance to be entered for you. In default whereof the Plaintiff will be entitled at any time after, the expiration of such thirty days to **RS.3,160,604.94 ALONG WITH CHARITY, MARK-UP / PROFIT AND COST OF FUNDS CHARGES, COSTS TILL THE REALIZATION OF THE WHOLE AMOUNT.** Leave to appear may be obtained on an application to the Court in the form of written statement showing that there is a defense to the suit on merits, or that it is reasonable that you should be allowed to appear and defend the suit.

The matter is fixed on 18th day of FEBRUARY, 2026 at 09:00 AM before the Banking Court-II, Karachi.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 14th Day of January, 2026

BY ORDER
READER
BANKING COURT NO. II KARACHI

BEFORE:- MR. ABDUL RAZZAQ (JUDGE)
IN THE BANKING COURT NO.II, AT KARACHI
Block No.50,Pakistan Secretariat, Near Passport Office, Saddar ,Karachi
SUIT NO. 15 OF 2026.

BANKISLAMI PAKISTAN LIMITED Having Its Registered Office at 11th Floor. Executive Tower Dolmen City, Marine Drive Block 4, Clittion Karachi. **And** Business & Finance Center 1st & 2nd mezzanine Floor. I.I Chundrigar Road, Karachi.....**Plaintiff**

VERSUS

ZIA UL HAQ MUGHAL S/o SHUJA UL HAQ CNIC No. 82203-7299607-5 House No. A.103 Afnan Arcade Gulistan e Johar. Block 15, East, Karachi.....**DEFENDANT**

To, **The Above named Defendant.**

Whereas the Plaintiff abovenamed has instituted a Suit against you under the Financial Institutions (Recovery of finances) Ordinance XLVI of 2001. You are hereby summoned to obtain leave from the Court within Thirty Days from the service hereof to appear and defend the suit and within such time to cause an appearance to be entered for you. In default whereof the Plaintiff will be entitled at any time after the expiration of such thirty days to **RS 4,283,530.66 ALONG WITH CHARITY, MARK-UP / PROFIT AND COST OF FUNDS CHARGES, COSTS TILL THE REALIZATION OF THE WHOLE AMOUNT.** Leave to appear may be obtained on an application to the Court in the form of written statement showing that there is a defense to the suit on merits or that it is reasonable that you should be allowed to appear and defend the suit.

The matter is fixed on **18th day of February 2026 at 09:00 AM** before the Banking Court-II, Karachi.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 14th Day of JANUARY 2026.

BY ORDER
READER
BANKING COURT NO. II KARACHI

BEFORE:- MR. ABDUL RAZZAQ (JUDGE)
IN THE BANKING COURT NO.II, AT KARACHI
Block No.50, Pakistan Secretariat, Near Passport Office, Saddar ,Karachi
SUIT NO. 16 OF 2026.

BANKISLAMI PAKISTAN LIMITED Having Its Registered Office at 11th Floor. Executive Tower Dolmen City, Marine Drive Block 4, Cliftion Karachi. **And** Business & Finance Center 1st & 2nd mezzanine Floor, I.I Chundrigar Road. Karachi.....**Plaintiff**

VERSUS

MUHAMMAD ARSALAN UMRANI S/o MIR MUHAMMAD SADIQ CNIC No. 53402-7974807-7 House No. 161/I, Main Khayaban-e-Khalid Phase-8, DHA, Karachi.....**DEFENDANT**

To, **The Above named Defendant.**

Whereas the Plaintiff abovenamed has instituted a Suit against you under the Financial Institutions (Recovery of finances) Ordinance XLVI of 2001. You are hereby summoned to obtain leave from the Court within Thirty Days from the service hereof to appear and defend the suit and within such time to cause an appearance to be entered for you. In default whereof the Plaintiff will be entitled at any time after the expiration of such thirty days to **RS. 1,699,185.92 ALONG WITH CHARITY, MARK-UP / PROFIT AND COST OF FUNDS CHARGES, COSTS TILL THE REALIZATION OF THE WHOLE AMOUNT.** Leave to appear may be obtained on an application to the Court in the form of written statement showing that there is a defense to the suit on merits or that it is reasonable that you should be allowed to appear and defend the suit.

The matter is fixed on **18th day of February 2026 at 09:00 AM** before the Banking Court-II, Karachi.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 14th Day of JANUARY, 2026.

BY ORDER
READER
BANKING COURT NO. II KARACHI

In Loving Memory of

Dr. Tufail Ahmed Qureshi

1 January 1936 - 21 January 2021

Husband, father, grandfather, scholar and professor.

He was dearly loved and is deeply missed.

بڑا ہے درد کا رشتہ، یہ دل غریب سہی
تمہارے نام پہ آئینگے غمگسار چلے

Please recite Surah Fateha for his maghfirat.

Tahira Qureshi, Sadaf & Ali Halai, Nabil & Yumna Qureshi, Kiran Qureshi